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Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

DOE Zero Energy Ready Home

Zero Energy Ready Home Newsletter: March 2017

Zero Energy Ready Home: 2016 Year in Review

1. DOE Releases Consumer Video Positioning ZERH as the 'Home Leading Experts Would Choose'

In 2016, the ZERH team launched a new consumer video, "The Home of the Future...Today." Now live on the 'Tour of Zero' home page and also available on YouTube, the video helps consumers learn why leading experts would choose Zero Energy Ready Home for themselves based on seven must-have systems. Most importantly, simple graphics and descriptions effectively demonstrate how Zero Energy Ready Homes can deliver superior performance and future value for lower ownership cost. This video is a must-see for all homebuyers before that make what is often the largest purchase of a lifetime.

2. Housing Innovation Awards Attracts Largest Applicant Pool of ZERHs

The <u>2016 Housing Innovation Awards</u> featured the largest number of applicants for any award year to date! This year, our judges were tasked with choosing the winners from an incredibly rich field of extraordinary homes. Ultimately, they agreed upon the 39 winners and 5 Grand Winners across 5 different categories (Affordable, Custom-Buyer, Custom-Spec, Production, and Multi-Family).

It's takes special leadership by the best in the housing industry to begin the 'Zero' movement. DOE is using the Housing Innovation Awards to recognize this leadership. All of the Housing Innovation Award winners are featured on the DOE Tour of Zero!

3. Tour of Zero Exceeds 120 ZERHs Showcasing a Superior Consumer Experience

Speaking of the Tour of Zero, the virtual showcase for the best of Zero Energy Ready Homes, now features over 120 home profiles from builders across the country. The Tour of Zero allows American homebuyers to take a look inside these ZERH certified homes to see how they deliver a completely better homeowner experience and are available today! Visitors are able to tour certified homes in every major U.S. climate zone and can view images of the home's exterior, interior and technical solutions (in that order); learn about the better experience from powerful homeowner and builder testimonials; view floor plans, quickly identify key data including incredibly low energy bills, basic house statistics, and impressively low HERS Index Scores. Take the Tour!

4. ZERH Exceeds 1,000 Certified Homes with 1,000's More Expected in 2017

The Zero Energy Ready Home program has seen steady growth in recent years and reached the 1,000 home milestone this past year. With more projects already in progress and thousands more planned for the coming year, ZERH homes are continuing to penetrate the marketplace as American homebuyers learn more about the superior homeowner experience that comes with a ZERH certified home.

See all the Zero Energy Ready Home partners across the country with our <u>Partner Locator!</u>

5. DOE Launches Innovation Partner Program Targeting 100+ Manufacturers and Associations to Promote National ZERH Campaign Message

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is engaging the depth and breadth of all housing industry manufacturers and their associations related to high performance homes to rally around one common consumer message: look for Zero Energy Ready Home because it's "the Home Experts Would Choose". DOE is teaming with Innovation Partners, leading manufacturers and associations, who are vested in high-performance homes to engage American consumers to take the Tour of Zero and view the "The Home of the Future...Today" video to learn about the superior homeowner experience with Zero Energy Ready Homes that live, work, last and feel better!

Working together we can get American consumers to recognize a better choice for the largest purchase of a lifetime. And it will be good for business, jobs, clean air, energy savings, and future value. Click here to find out more on how to be an Innovation Partner.

Webinar Announcement

Guides for Installing, Sizing & Selecting Air-Source Heat Pumps in Cold Climates

Presented by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP)

The use of air-source heat pumps (ASHP) in cold climates has grown significantly in recent years. However, the traditional sizing, selection and installation practices are not always well suited to cold climates and have led to system inefficiencies and underperformance. To address this challenge, the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) prepared two new resources: the *Guide to Sizing & Selecting ASHPs in Cold Climates* and the *Guide to Installing ASHPs in Cold Climates*. These guides provide clear guidance for ASHP installers to help improve overall system performance and customer satisfaction. NEEP will be hosting a webinar on Tuesday, March 28, 2-3PM EST to share more details about these resources.

Register today

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